

MERCATOR:

O R,

Commerce Retrieved,

B E I N G

CONSIDERATIONS on the State of the *British* Trade, &c.

From Thursday, May 6. to Saturday, May 8. 1714.

THE last *MERCATOR* made it, as he thinks, unquestionable, that the Woollen-Manufactures of this Kingdom are carry'd in great Quantities to Marseilles in France, what they are done with when they come there; That let the Opposers tell us if they can, and the *MERCATOR* Challenges them to do it, or acknowledge themselves Cheats and Deceivers.

If they are carry'd into France, then *the Point* is gain'd that way on our side, and the Pretence that the French do not want our Manufactures, but have enough of their own, is Vanished and Confuted, and they ought to be hissed at by all Britain for starting such ridiculous and absurd Trumpery into the World.

If they are Exported from thence to other Places, then the Point is lost that way on their side, and the French who they had vouch'd, were able to supply all the World with their own rare Excellent Manufactures, and as the wise Guardian had advanced War in a fair way to Engross all the Trade of Europe, are made Brokers to carry, and sell our Goods for us, which the *Devil must be in them* if they did, while they had enough of their own.

These Things are so Self-evident, that after this, no Man ought to talk to any. If these *TRADE PRE-SERVERS*, *Trade Confounders*, they should be called, till they have answer'd it: Reply they will, no doubt, and rail most plentifully, as those who cannot answer, often do; But to answer it not in the Nature of the Thing, it can by no means admit of an Answer. The Goods are prov'd to be carry'd to Marseilles, there the *MERCATOR* has landed them fairly; what comes of them after we all know, the best and most experienced Merchant on the Exchange of London will not doubt it. The Ships are known, Ships Name and Masters Name are known from England, 28 Ships within 11 Months have deliver'd at Marseilles, we challenge and defy these Opposers to tell us what was done with the Goods, if not sent into France.

The *MERCATOR* knows and has Experience of the Fact, when he has been abroad in those Parts, that the French often carry whole Bales of Long-Elles and English Long-Cloths from Marseilles to other Ports, and call them Goods made in France; but this is an Instance our Opposers will not touch with, because it takes away all Pretence to the making them at home.

But for the Argument it self, let the Opposers fairly confute it if they can, as they would not be accounted Deceivers and Deluders of the People, Slanderers of their Country, and a treacherous sort of Hypocrites, not to be trusted in any thing as they would not acquiesce in these Titles, let them enter into the Particulars, and without any more Equivocations and Shufflings, tell the Honest People of England the naked Truth in plain and well-attested Terms.

1. Do the French receive great Quantities of English Woollen-Manufactures into the Port of Marseilles, or do they not? If they deny it then the Proof is ours, and the *MERCATOR* is ready for it.

2. If they do, as must be own'd, Then do they Export those English Woollen-Manufactures to other Countries, or do they not? And if they do, let it be shewed, for the Proof is theirs, they having affirm'd, if they cannot prove it, they are defeated, and so they are if they can.

If they prove that they are carry'd out of France, then the Opinion of the French abounding in Manufactures of their own will be shewn in its own native Falsity and Foolishness; for if it were with them as these Men have alledged, they must be bewitch'd to send our Goods about the World, when they had so many of their own, and let these Men tell us why the French do not send their own Goods to those Places, if they have any, rather than ours; and if still they insist, that they do nevertheless send ours, then let them tell us, why we cannot come to the same Port as well as the French, and whether we do or not; and if we do, why we do not undersel them and get all the Trade?

If they cannot prove that they are carry'd out of France, they are in a worse Case still, for then they must be acknowledg'd to be consumed in France, which is the Sum and Substance of all the Argument which they have been so long opposing.

The *MERCATOR* comes next to the Quantity of Goods which are Exported to France, under the Title of *The Streights*. It has been shewn, how that to all the other Ports in *the Streights* many Goods are daily Enter'd in the particular Names of those Ports, as at Leghorn, Alicant, Malaga, &c. or Spain in general; for Example, take three Weeks only from the first of April to the 20th Inclusive, or let them take any other time when and where they please.

From



From the Custom-house.

*Exported from the 1st of April to the 20th,
to the following Ports.*

To the Port of Alicant.

130 Double Bays
134 Stuffs and Druggets
16 dozen Hats
174 lb. Pewter
687 lb. Wrought Iron and Brass
56 lb. Clockwork and Case
40 Pieces Cabinet Work

To the Port of Malaga.

28000 Hoops
20 C. Iron Hoops
270 Perpets
90 Double Bays
64 Stuffs

To Spain in a General Head.

350 Double Bays
120 Stuffs
18 dozen Hats

To the Port of Leghorn.

1056 Perpets
488 Stuffs and Druggets
735 Kerfies
40 Single dozens
30 Long } Cloths
32 Short }
49 Span }
56 lb. Clockwork
490 16 lb. Pepper
28 Fodder 10 C. Lead

All this while there are also Ships Entred at the Custom-house and upon the Exchange for Alicant, Malaga, Leghorn, &c. but not a Ship to Marseilles.

And all this time we have only one Entry to Marseilles, or two at most, viz. April 6. Marseilles, 16 Ton Copperas, value about 90 l. and not above six Entries more in seven Months for Marseilles, and not one Ship Entred thither: So that those Six small Parcels of Goods, (viz.) April 30. 42 C. Leather; May 2. 40 C. Tin; all these must go without Shipping, or Ships must go on purpose out of their way to deliver those Trifles at Marseilles; either of which is absurd.

The Truth is this, that great Quantities of Goods were shipped in several Ships to Marseilles, at least 28 or 30 Ships can be proved to have gone thither, all Entred at the Custom-house as to the Streights, and the Goods also.

It follows next, to take a View of what Woollen Manufactures, and other English Goods, have been

Exported from London to the Streights in some certain time; of which the *MERCATOR* says, and has given his Reasons for it, that he thinks it very reasonable to suppose One half went for Marseilles, but let them take a Third, or a Quarter, or any Quantity they please, that they can give a good Reason for. The Account is as follows.

From the Custom-House.

*Exported to the Streights from October
1713. to May 1. 1714. being Six Months
and Fourteen Days.*

1151 Long Cloths
430 Short
636 Spanish
308 Single dozens
181 Double
25 Single Bays
414 Double Bays
11 Minikin Bays
1269 Kerfies
3200 yards Flannel
2000 Goads Cotton
1000 Goads plain
17318 Perpetuanas and Serges
11761 Stuffs and Druggets
1756 dozen Hose
446 dozen Castors
339 lb. Silk Hose
58 Suits of Apparel
672 C. Leather
55250 Horn Plates & Lanth. Leaves
6 C. Clockwork and Cases
891 Fodder 3 C. Lead
34 Ton 10 C. Block Tin
6 Ton 5 C. Wrought Pewter
85 Ton 14 C. Copperas
15 Ton 7 C. Lead-shot
32 Ton 15 C. Red Lead
4 Ton Litharge Lead
45 Ton Lead Oar
18 Ton Beer
20 Ton Aquavita
19 Ton 15 C. Cheese
406 Firkins Butter
9181 Barrels Red Herrings
60 Barrels Salmon
2682 lb. Wrought Brass
2409 lb. Wrought Iron
11 C. Loaf Sugar
300 lb. Snuff
510 quarter Malt
365 quarter Barley
680 quarter Rye
60 quarter Pease



Besides Tobacco, Sugar, Ginger, Logwood, Braziletto, Cotton, Drugs, Callicoes, and all other foreign Goods in great Quantities, and besides all these kinds of Goods again from Scotland, and from all the Out-Ports of England.